

## **Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**

**Oct. 17, 2019**

### **Assisi Room (Rectory)**

*Members in attendance:* Fr. John Dillon, Alicia Church, Justin Fitzgerald, Mark Harang, Christine King, Bernie McGuire, Ann Pierre, Vincent Price, Travis Tomon and Miguel Welanetz

*Other members in attendance:* Communications Coordinator Melissa Egan

During the Parish Pastoral Council meeting that convened at 7:35 pm, Fr. John Dillon announced that he has appointed five parishioners to serve two-year terms on the consultative body to the pastor, beginning Jan. 1, 2020.

The new Pastoral Council members are parishioners Marianne DeAusen, Linda Foster, Ronald Hays, Louise Locke and Leah Vincent. They will replace several members who either completed their two-year term on the Parish Council or who have recently moved away from the area. Fr. John said the new members will be invited to the Pastoral Council's Christmas party, attended by current members and parish staff members.

Fr. John also gave an update on the Small Group sign-up. This fall, 60 people have signed up to study the Gospel of Matthew in Small Groups, which is three times as many who participated last fall. He also reported that the Dining Disciples Small Group recently hosted its fourth dinner.

Under the topic of facility enhancements, Fr. John reported that construction had temporarily stopped on the church's roof replacement because Building Committee member Tom Phelps, who has a background in construction, recently inspected the roof and noticed that the construction crews were installing the new roof on top of the old roof. Coupled with four safety violations Tom noticed, Fr. John contacted the Archdiocese and arranged a meeting to be held on Oct. 11. At the meeting, the roof contractor admitted the company was at fault. The archdiocese is holding onto the roofing company's second payment for now until the roof is torn off and replaced, per the original contract that was signed.

In other facility news, Fr. John also reported that the contracts to hire James Wilson as the project manager for the rest of the facility enhancements and Mullineaux and Mullineaux as the architect were approved. "I devoutly hope that enhancements will happen by the (parish's) 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary," Fr. John said.

Under ministry committee reports, Communications Ministry Coordinator Melissa Egan reported that the Communications Ministry is studying the issue of signage in front of the church, including whether the church can get an electronic sign to better promote ministries and events; the parish story lineup for the October issue of *Our Parish Times*, which included feature stories on Sarah Seyed-Ali as the new Youth Minister; Bon Pasteur students passing their Philo or final year of high school; and RCIA ministers

Terry Davis, Don and Sara Dean retiring from that ministry. Lastly, she discussed plans for the Offertory Stewardship Appeal, which is launching with Homily Sunday on Nov. 17 and 18.

In Religious Education, Fr. John reported that the ministry is close to 100 percent compliant with children having taken the Circle of Grace curriculum for this program year. He also reported that the National Evangelization Team would host a retreat for the Religious Education middle school students on Monday, Oct. 28.

Executive Committee member Alicia Church discussed the parish's 2022 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary planning process. She expressed her desire for parishioners to be invited to join a committee by Jan. 1, 2020 and start doing some of the work that was brainstormed by parishioners during summer brainstorming sessions. Alicia said there was a lot of discussion around a pig roast and having an event at Smokey Glen Farms in Gaithersburg. Fr. John also noted that St. Martin's Parish is celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary; he said he could request their template and see whether there's anything St. Francis might like to replicate.

Alternately, council members suggested a number of other activities around the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, including:

- Displaying or documenting the parish's history
- Designing memory books to be available for purchase
- Having ministries each take ownership of one line from the Prayer of St. Francis and organizing a service project related to each line
- Organizing a T-shirt fundraiser featuring the church or the Prayer of St. Francis
- Bringing back the Living Nativity
- Holding a Christmas ornament fundraiser
- Sponsoring a car raffle

Fr. John also discussed upcoming events in the parish, including:

- Holiday Bazaar and Flea Market on Nov. 9.
- Dedication of catechists, new volunteers and staff on Nov. 16/17
- Offertory Stewardship Campaign's Commitment Weekend on Nov. 23/24
- Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at 7 pm in the church on Nov. 24
- Mass with Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory at St. Francis on Feb. 23, 2020

Under other business, the council also discussed the idea of the ministry of the month. The meeting adjourned shortly after 9 pm.